

4 a set of communications servers coupled to the set of
5 switches for receiving the set of incoming call signals, each
6 communications server being coupled to a network and containing a
7 message processing resource configured to process a received audio
8 message into a digital representation;

9 where a switch in the set of switches redirects an incoming call
10 signal from a first communications server to a second
11 communications server if a first condition occurs.

1 ² 20. (New) The system of claim ¹19, where the first condition
2 occurs if the first communications server sends a rejection signal
3 to the switch.

1 ³ 21. (New) The system of claim ¹19, where the first condition
2 occurs if the first communications server is unable to process the
3 incoming call signal.

1 ⁴ 22. (New) The system of claim ¹19, where the incoming call signal
2 signals an incoming call and the first condition occurs if the
3 first communications server is unable to process the incoming
4 call.

1 ⁵ 23. (New) The system of claim ¹19, further comprising a system
2 management unit for setting the first condition.

1 ⁶ 24. (New) The system of claim ¹19, further comprising a system
2 management unit, and the first condition occurs if the system
3 management unit determines that the second communications server
4 should receive the incoming call signal.

1 ⁷/~~25~~. (New) The system of claim ¹/~~19~~, where the set of switches
2 includes a second switch, and the first communications server is
3 coupled to the switch and the second communications server is
4 coupled to the second switch.

1 ⁸/~~26~~. (New) The system of claim ⁷/~~25~~, where the switch redirects the
2 incoming call signal to the second switch.

1 27. (New) The system of claim 19, where the incoming call signal
2 includes an inbound address and each communications server further
3 comprises a trunk line interface to extract the inbound address
4 and the message processing resource is further configured to
5 determine, based on the inbound address, a user account and a
6 destination on a packet switched network and send the digital
7 representation to the destination.

1 28. (New) The system of claim 27, where the inbound address is a
2 circuit destination address.

1 29. (New) The system of claim 27, where the message processing
2 resource is further configured to validate the inbound address.

1 ¹¹/~~30~~. (New) The system of claim ¹/~~19~~, where the audio message is a
2 facsimile message and the digital representation of the audio
3 message is a graphics file.

1 ¹²/~~31~~. (New) The system of claim ¹/~~19~~, where the message processing
2 resource further comprises a processor to:

3 determine if the audio message contains a facsimile message
4 or a voice message; and,

5 digitize the audio message if the audio message contains the
6 voice message and receive the facsimile message if the audio
7 message contains the facsimile message.

1 32. (New) A method comprising:

2 receiving a first incoming call signal destined for a first
3 communications server for processing of an audio message into a
4 digital representation;

5 determining if a first condition has occurred;

6 redirecting the first incoming call signal from the first
7 communications server to a second communications server based on
8 the determining of the first condition.

1 33. (New) The method of claim ~~32~~¹⁴, where determining the first
2 condition includes determining that the first communications
3 server sends a rejection signal.

1 34. (New) The method of claim ~~32~~¹⁵, where determining the first
2 condition includes determining that the first communications
3 server is unable to process the incoming call signal.

1 35. (New) The method of claim ~~32~~¹⁶, where the incoming call signal
2 signals an incoming call and determining the first condition
3 includes determining that the first communications server is
4 unable to process the incoming call.

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1 ~~36~~. (New) The method of claim ~~32~~¹³, where determining the first
2 condition includes determining that a system management unit
3 selects the second communications server for receiving the
4 incoming call signal.

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1 ~~37~~. (New) The method of claim ~~32~~¹³, where redirecting the first
2 incoming call signal includes using a switch to redirect the first
3 incoming signal from the first communication server to the second
4 communication server.

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1 38. (New) The method of claim ~~32~~¹³, where the incoming call signal
2 includes an inbound address and the method further including:
3 extracting the inbound address;
4 determining, based on the inbound address, a user account and
5 a destination on a packet switched network; and,
6 sending the digital representation to the destination.

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1 39. (New) The method of claim 38, where the inbound address is a
2 circuit destination address.

1 40. (New) The method of claim 38, further including validating
2 the inbound address.

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1 ~~41~~. (New) The method of claim ~~32~~¹³, where the audio message is a
2 facsimile message and the digital representation of the audio
3 message is a graphics file.

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1 ~~42~~. (New) The method of claim ~~32~~¹³, further including:

2 determining if the audio message contains a facsimile message
3 or a voice message; and,

4 digitizing the audio message if the audio message contains
5 the voice message and receiving the facsimile message if the audio
6 message contains the facsimile message.
